

and the Cape, but that each of these again must be dealt with according to its own conditions; the chief of which have been above stated.

I think that the contribution should always be in money and not in kind, such as rations, stores, or barrack accommodation. This plan is shown by former examples to be unsatisfactory and a fertile source of dispute.

Even if the contribution be calculated as a proportion of the whole military expenditure, I think that the amount should be fixed for periods of some continuance, since practical inconvenience and occasions of difference would arise from its constant fluctuation.

I cannot agree that the defences ought to be placed generally, and as a system, under local management. In the first place, the subject does not admit of being conveniently treated in detached portions; military and naval operations, and the preparations to be made for them, require an extended survey. In the next place, the welfare of the Queen's troops in time of peace, and the provision to be made for the success of the national arms in time of war, appear to me precisely examples of the subjects for which the Imperial Government must remain responsible, and which ought to be dealt with by the authority of the Governor, as Her Majesty's representative, and of the officer commanding the forces.

In conclusion, I must express my regret for the length of this examination of the different Colonies, but it seemed to me that the true nature of the difficulties to be met could not be shown by any shorter process. What has to be solved is not one problem, but many. I despair of discovering upon them any self-acting rule which shall be a substitute for the judgment and firmness of the Ministers of the Crown for the time being. They will doubtless always be guided by a policy, but they can hardly expect to despatch such complicated and arduous questions by a single maxim. To deal with cases on their merits, to labour patiently against opposition in some quarters, and to welcome and reciprocate co-operation from others: these, in so wide and diversified a sphere as the British Colonies, appear to me tasks and duties inseparable from the function of governing, which can never be superseded by the machinery of a system however ably conceived or logically constructed.

(signed) *T. Frederick Elliot.*

APPENDIX.

POPULATION, IMPORTS and EXPORTS of the undermentioned Countries, for the Year 1857.

	Population.	Imports into the United Kingdom.	Exports from the United Kingdom.		
			Home Produce.	Colonial and Foreign Produce.	TOTAL.
		£.	£.	£.	£.
British America - -	3,014,051	6,309,110	4,320,035	330,325	4,668,360
Australia - - -	1,107,537	14,001,504	11,632,524	1,542,001	13,175,125
United States - -	27,797,403	33,647,227	18,985,930	1,000,950	20,076,880
TOTAL - - -	31,918,991	55,037,031	34,947,498	2,072,882	37,020,380

The Imports and Exports are compiled from the Returns of the Board of Trade; the Population of the Colonies from the Blue Books; and of the United States from the Almanac published in 1858.